

**Volume 7, Issue 3**

A publication of the Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club, Inc.



**President's Message:**

It sometimes seems a little hard to believe that our goal for the past 6 years is finally coming to pass. In 2003 we set on the goal of earning \$3,000 so we would have enough money to host a national specialty show. Two short years later we had accomplished that and began our

search for a show site. In 2006 we submitted our first bid which was turned down in favor of another location. We resubmitted a bid in 2007, and were accepted. Now in September all that work will finally be realized. It has taken lots of work from many people to accomplish this goal. I am hopeful that this will be one of the best Nationals ever. We hosted the National Specialty Show in 1989. At that time Jocelyn Barker was a strong worker at that show, probably with no idea that one day she would actually be judging a National Specialty some day. That happened a few years ago in Portland, Oregon. It seemed only fitting that we would invite Jocelyn Barker to be a judge for our specialty in conjunction with the National Specialty Show for 2009 exactly 20 years after her first experience of hosting a National Specialty.

Mr. Matgo Law is going to be judging our dog and bitch classes. We are very happy that he accepted our invitation to come all the way from Hong Kong to take this assignment. We would like to invite all club members to come meet and visit with Matgo Law. You can come watch his judging on Monday, September 28. You will have another opportunity to meet him at a welcome reception for him at 6 p.m. on Tuesday night September 29. Tickets will be sold for the reception and there will be a cash bar provided. Immediately following the reception

at 7:00 p.m. he will be giving a talk about the breed. It has been about 15 years since Mr. Law has come to America, and there is no telling when he might be back. Please make an effort to come see him while he is in our area.

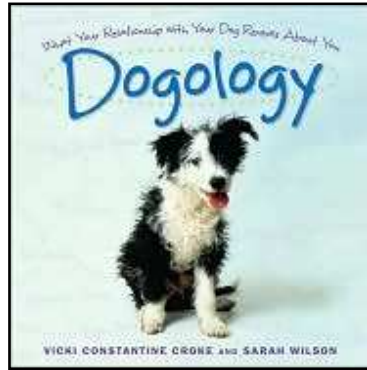
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**Looking for a new book?****Dogology:  
What Your Relationship with  
Your Dog Reveals about You**

by Vicki Croke and Sarah Wilson



Dog owners, this book reveals, fall into 9 distinct personality types: Angel, Dynamo, Soul Mate, Idealist, Observer, Expert, Buddy, Master, and Free Spirit. While most of us recognize that a rescuing Angel needs to save the neediest dog at the local shelter, what makes a Soul Mate a soft touch for round-headed, big-eyed toy breeds such as Shih Tzus, Pugs, and Pekingese. Authors Vicki Croke and Sarah Wilson, experts on the complex bond between dogs and their owners, use quizzes, psychological insights, and humor to analyze why dog owners gravitate toward certain breeds as pets—and to explain what owner's choices reveal about their character and emotional makeup. With *Dogology* in hand, anyone visiting a dog park can instantly spot the various types and subtypes, from the Image Maker fashionista with her accessory Yorkie peeking out of her Prada bag, to the Free Spirit, whose dog often bears a botanical name and rarely comes when called. Similarly, readers will themselves learn that paying attention to the words they choose to praise their dog reveals the specific approval that they crave themselves. With quick checklists to identify what type of dog owners readers are, tips for training, and exercises for bonding with one's dog, *Dogology* will make a welcome addition to any of the 43.5 million American households that now own at least one dog.

**Hardcover:** 256 pages – *All 16 reviewers have given it 5 stars***Publisher:** Rodale Books (October 28, 2008)

\$12.21 at Amazon.com

**World's Oldest Dog  
Turns 21**

NEW YORK (May 6) - Chanel, the world's oldest dog, celebrated her 21st birthday on Wednesday with a certificate from the Guinness Book of Records and a visit to a dog hotel and spa.

The dachshund, a rescue dog from Port Jefferson in New York, wore an orange sweater and red goggles as her owner, Denice Shaughnessy, accepted the award marking her longevity.

<http://news.aol.com/article/oldest-dog/471051>

**Dangers in your Garden**

Whether bringing your pet to a bed and breakfast or resort that has its own garden (or just beginning your own spring gardening), be careful when you're letting your pet "smell the roses". Always watch for groundskeepers spraying pesticides or other materials. Let your pets on to the treated area only after sprays have dried -- or even the next day, suggested the Professional Lawn Care Association of America, based in Marietta, Georgia. Dry granular pesticides being used? Wait until the dust has settled to let your pet roam.

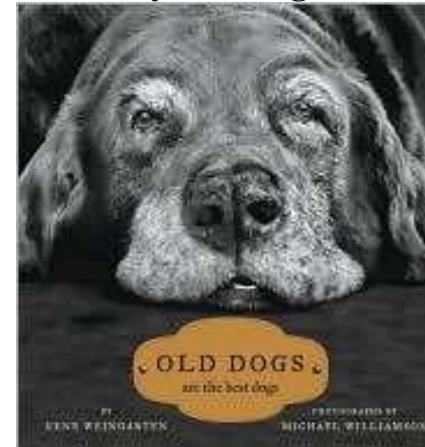
Beyond that, even some common plants are toxic to most animals, according to the American Animal Hospital Association, a Denver-based professional organization for veterinarians. The organization suggests keeping your pets away from several plants, including:

- \* **Avocado**- Fatal to birds, this plant's leaves, seeds, stems and skin are considered a cardiovascular toxin. It also can cause kidney or organ failure.
- \* **Amaryllis**- A showy flower, whether striped or solid white. Yet, its bulb is considered a gastrointestinal and neurological toxin.
- \* **Autumn crocus** (*Colchicum autumnale*)- These pretty, petite flowers are considered very poisonous, not to mention a cardiovascular and gastrointestinal toxin.
- \* **Azalea**- A lovely bush filled with flowers. Yet, it's a cardiovascular, gastrointestinal and neurological toxin for animals.
- \* **Begonia**- A pretty flower to people, but potentially fatal to pets. Can cause kidney or organ failure.
- \* **Castor bean**- A shrub-like plant with clustered seed pods, this African native is potentially fatal if chewed.
- \* **Foxglove** (*Digitalis*)- One of its nicknames -- Dead Men's Bells -- is a clue that this bell-shaped, tubular flower can be fatal.
- \* **Hydrangea**- A hardy, showy shade-loving flower, the plant contains cyanide.
- \* **Jack-in-the-pulpit**- Usually found in the woods, this flowering plant can cause kidney or organ failure.
- \* **Lantana**- Its clusters of tiny flowers attract butterflies, yet the plant can cause liver failure in pets.
- \* **Lily of the valley**- Known for sweet-smelling flowers, yet potentially fatal to pets.
- \* **Oleander**- Its pastel flowers make it a popular bush, yet it's very poisonous and can be fatal to pets.

- \* **Philodendron**- Big, leafy, green and showy, this plant can cause kidney or organ failure in animals.
- \* **Poinsettia**- The famous Christmas plant can bring on dermatitis in animals. It's also a gastrointestinal toxin.
- \* **Rhubarb leaves**- Can cause kidney or organ failure in animals.
- \* **Rosary Pea**- A slender vine with pea-shaped pods, this plant can be fatal if chewed.
- \* **Schefflera** (a.k.a. umbrella plant)- This leafy green -- and often indoor -- plant can cause kidney or organ failure.
  - **Yew**- A tree or ornamental plant with needle-like foliage, it is fatal to most animals.

From Takeyourpet.com- May, 2009

### The last word: Why Old Dogs are the Best Dogs



They can be eccentric, slow afoot, even grouchy. But dogs live out their final days, says The Washington Post's Gene Weingarten, with a humility and grace we all could learn from.

Not long before his death, Harry and I headed out for a walk that proved eventful. He was nearly 13, old for a big dog. Walks were no longer the slap-happy Iditarods of his youth, frenzies of purposeless pulling in which we would cast madly off in all directions, fighting for command. Nor were they the exuberant archaeological expeditions of his middle years, when every other tree or hydrant or blade of grass held tantalizing secrets about his neighbors. In his old age, Harry had transformed his walk into a simple process of elimination—a dutiful, utilitarian, head-

down trudge. When finished, he would shuffle home to his ratty old bed, which graced our living room because Harry could no longer ascend the stairs. On these walks, Harry seemed oblivious to his surroundings, absorbed in the arduous responsibility of placing foot before foot before foot before foot. But this time, on the edge of a small urban park, he stopped to watch something. A man was throwing a Frisbee to his dog. The dog, about Harry's size, was tracking the flight expertly, as Harry had once done, anticipating hooks and slices by watching the pitch and roll and yaw of the disc, as Harry had done, then catching it with a joyful, punctuating leap, as Harry had once done too.

Harry sat. For 10 minutes, he watched the fling and catch, fling and catch, his face contented, his eyes alight, his tail a-twitch. Our walk home was almost jaunty.

Some years ago, *The Washington Post* invited readers to come up with a midlife list of goals for an underachiever. The first-runner-up prize went to: "Win the admiration of my dog."

It's no big deal to love a dog; they make it so easy for you. They find you brilliant, even if you are a witling. You fascinate them, even if you are as dull as a butter knife. They are fond of you, even if you are a genocidal maniac. Hitler loved his dogs, and they loved him.

Puppies are incomparably cute and incomparably entertaining, and, best of all, they smell exactly like puppies. At middle age, a dog has settled into the knuckleheaded matrix of behavior we find so appealing—his unquestioning loyalty, his irrepressible willingness to please, his infectious happiness. But it is not until a dog gets old that his most important virtues ripen and coalesce. Old dogs can be cloudy-eyed and grouchy, gray of muzzle, graceless of gait, odd of habit, hard of hearing, pimply, wheezy, lazy, and lumpy. But to anyone who has ever known an old dog, these flaws are of little consequence. Old dogs are vulnerable. They show exorbitant gratitude and limitless trust. They are without artifice. They are funny in new and unexpected ways. But, above all, they seem at peace.

Kafka wrote that the meaning of life is that it ends. He meant that our lives are shaped and shaded by the existential terror of knowing that all is finite. This anxiety informs poetry, literature, the monuments we build, the wars we wage—all of it. Kafka was talking, of course, about people.

Among animals, only humans are said to be self-aware enough to comprehend the passage of time and the grim truth of mortality. How, then, to explain old Harry at the edge of that park, gray and lame, just days from the end, experiencing what can only be called wistfulness and nostalgia? I have lived with eight dogs, watched six of them grow old and infirm with grace and dignity, and die with what seemed to be acceptance. I have seen old dogs grieve at the loss of their friends. I have come to believe that as they age, dogs comprehend the passage of time, and, if not the inevitability of death, certainly the relentlessness of the onset of their frailties. They understand that what's gone is gone.



What dogs do not have is an abstract sense of fear, or a feeling of injustice or entitlement. They do not see themselves, as we do, as tragic heroes, battling ceaselessly against the merciless onslaught of time. Unlike us, old dogs lack the audacity to mythologize their lives. You've got to love them for that.

The product of a Kansas puppy mill, Harry was sold to us as a yellow Labrador retriever. I suppose it was technically true, but only in the sense that Tic Tacs are technically "food." Harry's lineage was suspect. He wasn't the square-headed, elegant type of Labrador you can envision in the wilds of Canada hunting for ducks. He was the shape of a baked potato, with the color and luster of an interoffice envelope. You could

envision him in the wilds of suburban Toledo, hunting for nuggets of dried food in a carpet.

His full name was Harry S Truman, and once he'd reached middle age, he had indeed developed the unassuming soul of a haberdasher. We sometimes called him Tru, which fit his loyalty but was in other ways a misnomer: Harry was a bit of an eccentric, a few bubbles off plumb. Though he had never experienced an electrical shock, whenever he encountered a wire on the floor—say, a power cord leading from a laptop to a wall socket—Harry would stop and refuse to proceed. To him, this barrier was as impassable as the Himalayas. He'd stand there, waiting for someone to move it. Also, he was afraid of wind.

While Harry lacked the wiliness and cunning of some dogs, I did watch one day as he figured out a basic principle of physics. He was playing with a water bottle in our backyard—it was one of those 5-gallon cylindrical plastic jugs from the top of a water cooler. At one point, it rolled down a hill, which surprised and delighted him. He retrieved it, brought it back up and tried to make it go down again. It wouldn't. I watched him nudge it around until he discovered that for the bottle to roll, its long axis had to be perpendicular to the slope of the hill. You could see the understanding dawn on his face; it was Archimedes in his bath, Helen Keller at the water spigot.

That was probably the intellectual achievement of Harry's life, tarnished only slightly by the fact that he spent the next two hours insipidly entranced, rolling the bottle down and hauling it back up. He did not come inside until it grew too dark for him to see.

I believe I know exactly when Harry became an old dog. He was about 9 years old. It happened at 10:15 on the evening of June 21, 2001, the day my family moved from the suburbs to the city. The move took longer than we'd anticipated. Inexcusably, Harry had been left alone in the vacated house—eerie, echoing, empty of furniture and of all belongings except Harry and his bed—for eight hours. When I arrived to pick him up, he was beyond frantic.

He met me at the door and embraced me around the waist in a way that is not immediately reconcilable with the musculature and skeleton of a dog's front legs. I could not extricate myself from his grasp. We walked

out of that house like a slow-dancing couple, and Harry did not let go until I opened the car door.

He wasn't barking at me in reprimand, as he once might have done. He hadn't fouled the house in spite. That night, Harry was simply scared and vulnerable, impossibly sweet and needy and grateful. He had lost something of himself, but he had gained something more touching and more valuable. He had entered old age.



In the year after our move, Harry began to age visibly, and he did it the way most dogs do. First his muzzle began to whiten, and then the white slowly crept backward to swallow his entire head. As he became more sedentary, he thickened a bit, too

On walks, he would no longer bother to scout and circle for a place to relieve himself. He would simply do it in mid-plod, like a horse, leaving the difficult logistics of drive-by cleanup to me. Sometimes, while crossing a busy street, with cars whizzing by, he would plop down to scratch his ear. Sometimes, he would forget where he was and why he was there. To the amusement of passersby, I would have to hunker down beside him and say, "Harry, we're on a walk, and we're going home

now. Home is this way, okay?" On these dutiful walks, Harry ignored almost everything he passed. The most notable exception was an old, barrel-chested female pit bull named Honey, whom he loved. This was surprising, both because other dogs had long ago ceased to interest Harry at all, and because even back when they did, Harry's tastes were for the guys.

Still, when we met Honey on walks, Harry perked up. Honey was younger by five years and heartier by a mile, but she liked Harry and slowed her gait when he was around. They waddled together for blocks, eyes forward, hardly interacting but content in each other's company. I will forever be grateful to Honey for sweetening Harry's last days.

Some people who seem unmoved by the deaths of tens of thousands through war or natural disaster will nonetheless grieve inconsolably over the loss of the family dog. People who find this behavior distasteful are often the ones without pets. It is hard to understand, in the abstract, the degree to which a companion animal, particularly after a long life, becomes a part of you. I believe I've figured out what this is all about. It is not as noble as I'd like it to be, but it is not anything of which to be ashamed, either.

In our dogs, we see ourselves. Dogs exhibit almost all of our emotions; if you think a dog cannot register envy or pity or pride or melancholia, you have never lived with one for any length of time. What dogs lack is our ability to dissimulate. They wear their emotions nakedly, and so, in watching them, we see ourselves as we would be if we were stripped of posture and pretense. Their innocence is enormously appealing. When we watch a dog progress from puppyhood to old age, we are watching our own lives in microcosm. Our dogs become old, frail, crotchety, and vulnerable, just as Grandma did, just as we surely will, come the day. When we grieve for them, we grieve for ourselves.

*From the book Old Dogs, text by Gene Weingarten and Michael S. Williamson, based on a longer excerpt that originally appeared in The Washington Post. ©2008 by Gene Weingarten and Michael S. Williamson. Reprinted by permission of Simon & Schuster Inc.*

## Happy Birthday D

by Kay Rosenberger



Call her Dusty, Heavy D, DD, Dust-a-reno, D, Delirious or The Alarm Clock - just don't call her late for dinner. Dusty is the oldest four footed member of the Rosenberger household. Her registered name is Meiting Delirious - just because she is so darned happy all the time.

We have long loved her golden retriever temperament and constantly wagging tail. My brother once said "If you can figure out how to strap a dust rag to her tail you would never have to clean again."

She can no longer jump up on the bed, but with a little help from us she never spends a night on the floor. And when the morning comes, Bob is especially fond of the wake up calls from the foot of the bed - just to remind him that hey it's time for breakfast. Dusty loves to sing and

dance (ok actually a small leap off the floor and a few galloping steps) for her breakfast and dinner. She has found more of her voice in her advanced years – barking when she is out and you are in – or she is in and you are out – either way. We are thinking it has become big entertainment to her to see how fast she can get us to open the door. Of course, we are pretty quick and her 32 second trip out to the yard and back is worthy of a world record. We have enjoyed everyday of her 14 years with us and hope to have many more delirious years ahead.



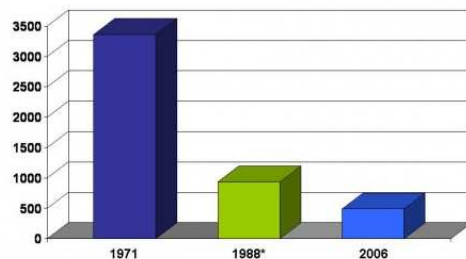
*Happy Birthday Dusty.*

### Denver Dog Bite Statistics

Despite increases in the human and dog population, cities and counties in Colorado have realized extraordinary decreases in the number of reported dog bites from the early 1970s:

Denver, CO

Decline in Number of Reported Dog Bites



\*\*Year prior to Denver's Pit bull ban.

*\*\*It should be noted that the reduction in the reported number of dog bites in Denver is independent of its draconian pit bull ban, as the greatest decrease in reported dog bites in the city occurred prior to the ban.\*\**

I found this very neat photo on NationalGeographic.com This is what it says about the photo:

### My Shot Dogs Infinite Photograph

Dive into this photo-mosaic of dogs made up of hundreds of photos submitted by users to My Shot Dogs. Move the yellow square over an area you would like to explore, click, and go. Double-click on an image to see more information about it. Keep clicking—and exploring deeper into the Infinite Photograph.



No matter how many times you click on this photo it leads to even more photos of dogs. You can have your dog be included in this photo as well, if you would like. Just click on the link and it will tell you how to submit your photo. Good luck and finding your dog though, once it has been added.

[http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/myshot/dogs/infinite-photograph?source=email\\_photo\\_20090618](http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/myshot/dogs/infinite-photograph?source=email_photo_20090618)



## Do You Own One of These Dogs?

If you do, we would like to thank you once again for giving these dogs a home. We couldn't rescue any dog if we couldn't find homes for them.



## Taking your pet on a road trip? 12 travel Tips



It's vacation time for many families and the question always comes up: "Should I take my dog with me?" For those of you that answered "yes" to that question, I have some good travel tips.

1. Have your veterinarian examine your dog within 2 weeks of travel.
2. Make sure your dog's vaccines are up to date.
3. Bring vaccine and health records with you.
4. Bring your pet's health certificate if you plan to cross state lines.
5. Make sure your pet has a securely fastened collar and an identification tag..
6. Bring a sufficient amount of your pet's food along.
7. Bring bowls for food and water.
8. Bring bottles of water for times when your pet is thirsty and water is not available.
9. Bring leashes, toys and bedding.
10. Make sure your dog has been treated for fleas and ticks.
11. If your dog is on medication, make sure to bring enough to last



throughout the trip.

12. Use a carrier or crate for your pet to travel in safely. This is important - **A crate or carrier is a must.**

Whether you're traveling by car or by plane, invest in a sturdy airline-approved carrier with enough space for your pet to move around easily, stand up and lie down. Mark it clearly with your name, address and phone number, and up arrows, and attach "Live Animal" stickers to it.

Make sure the container has fixed food and water bowls and secure doors. Ventilation holes should cover at least 14 percent of the wall surface of the carrier, with most of them at the top half of the box. Bowls should be accessible without opening the carrier door.

A few weeks before your trip, start getting your pet used to the carrier. Leave it out in your home, with the door open. Let the animal go in and out of the carrier as he pleases. Once he's comfortable with the crate or carrier, close the door for 5 or 10 minutes. When you let him out, don't make a big production. Doing so could make the animal equate the carrier with punishment, and release with reward.

From DogCrazy Newsletter- June 20, 2009

*The American Dog Owner's Association has a few more ideas about traveling with your pet. Exerpts as follows:*

### How to Travel with Your Pet

Tuesday , June 23, 2009

By Paul Eisenberg

#### "LoJack" Lassie (with a microchip)

Back in Apricot's day the notion of implanting a pet with a homing device was practically science fiction. Today it's a simple procedure performed during a veterinary office visit. A microchip "only the size of a grain of rice is injected under the [pet's] skin" without fuss or discomfort, says certified animal behavior consultant and author [Darlene Arden](#). You must also register the chip with the manufacturer's database, says Susan Smith, president of [pettravel.com](#), so that animal control agencies can track it if your pet disappears. As always, your pet should

be wearing an ID tag with his or her name and your cell number. And it's smart to carry a recent photo of Fido with you should he disappear.

Arden suggests writing a letter from your pet to the pilot if you are traveling by air. Something along the lines of "Hi my name is Rex. I'm flying with you in the cargo hold and my mom who's in seat 23A is really worried about me, so can you make sure the cargo is pressurized and let my mom know that I'm safely on board?" Have a flight attendant deliver the note. Arden says that uniformly this trick has been effective for her and her clients because "the flight crew has gotten involved – a lot of them have pets – and they'll come assure you that your pet is fine." Also attach a photo of your pet to the letter and have two letters prepared if you're changing planes, she says.

#### Pack your papers

Have a vet examine your pet within ten days of your trip and issue you a health certificate. The airlines will ask to see it, especially if you're transporting Fido by air cargo. Many hotels will also want to eyeball the document to verify Fido is flea, tick and disease free. All European Union countries and many other overseas destinations will require the certificate to bear a [United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) stamp](#), which you can obtain for a \$45 fee at your local USDA office. Bone up on country requirements and leash laws, too, Smith says, because if you're unprepared for "entry requirements in the country you're visiting they will [potentially] quarantine your pet, send it back, or destroy it."

Ask your vet what kind of preventative measures for fleas, ticks, heartworm, or mosquitoes might be appropriate for your destination. Arden suggests bringing sunscreen and aloe, especially for sun-sensitive hairless pets. Get referrals for vets in your destination and consider asking your vet where you might take a pet first aid class.



#### Treat your terrier like a toddler

If you're hitting the highway, contain your pet as you would for air cargo, stowing it in the back of the car. Take bathroom breaks every two hours if motoring with a dog.

Perhaps the most important road rule, suggests frequent traveler Angela Berardino, who takes long road trips with her boxer, Ollie, is having your dog on its leash and having a firm grip on it before opening the car door.

"Even well-behaved pets can take off quicker than you realize. Traffic at rest stops can be confusing, or there may be other animals around you don't immediately see. You should never be wrestling with attaching a leash in a parking lot," she says.

### **Know what makes a hotel pet friendly.**

Thousands of hotels nationwide welcome pets, says Smith. For years selected luxury hotels have pampered pets with amenities ranging from pet concierges and masseuses to specially-prepared meals and pet gift baskets.

But if you're looking for a basic pet-friendly hotel, "ask if they accept pets in all their rooms or if there are only specific rooms" set aside for pet owners, Smith says, as many hoteliers will try to shove guests with pets into smoking rooms. Ask when you book what the safety deposit is (to cover potential damage and cleaning costs) and whether or not it's refundable.

And inquire, Arden suggests, about whether you're permitted to have you pet in the lobby, elevators, and other indoor and outdoor public areas.

### **Get Fido in the mood to travel**

Conditioning your pet to travel before your trip is critical. If Spot or Felix don't get out much at home, Smith says to "test your pet's sociability, taking it "places like dog parks and [elsewhere] out of its environment and see how it reacts." Take short car rides, perhaps initially with a friend in back, "to reassure [your pet] that the traveling by car is safe," Berardino says.

Start keeping your pet in its carrier at your



feet, recommend Lane and Arden, so that over time the carrier "becomes a fun place to be," Arden says, and your pet doesn't just associate the carrier or travel with going to the vet or groomer.

"No pet of any size should be relegated to simply that," Arden says.

[http://www.foxnews.com/printer\\_friendly\\_story/0,3566,528545,00.html](http://www.foxnews.com/printer_friendly_story/0,3566,528545,00.html)

### **... if he wakes in Your arms...**

by R. A. S.



I can hardly see through my tears... today I sent my best friend of years and Years somewhere he had to go, where pain and sickness he won't have to know.

He's been with me ever since he was a pup...today I've had to give him up.

He was sick, we both knew it and I wouldn't put him through it.

Thinking back to the day my wife brought him, I told her then that I didn't want him...

"Noise and mess and bills to pay!" - I can't believe I felt that way.

Didn't know that in the end, he would be my dearest friend.

Didn't know that he would be the greatest gift that came to me.

How did one like me deserve a friend who wanted just to serve?

What was there that made him love me, with nobody else above me?

When I looked into his eyes, never did he criticize,

never did he hold a grudge, never did he try to judge.

Recently, an anxious day. "How come you don't want to play?"  
Took him to the vet to see what might be wrong with my "puppy".  
Worse by far than I expected, fatal illness was detected.  
Nothing much that we could do but keep him comfy til he's through.

Back at home I tried to tell him of the bad luck that befell him  
All I could see in his eyes was wondering why his master cries.  
I don't think he understood - his eyes just asked "Wasn't I good?"  
"How come now I make you sad? Let me kiss and hug you, dad!"

Two last weeks I had to try to find a way to say goodbye.  
In that time I told him more than I ever had before  
just how much I loved my pup, how it hurt to give him up.  
How though gone, he'd always be inside my heart, a part of me.

Then today was no mistaking, I made the decision, my heart was  
breaking.

I called and asked the vet to come by - I didn't have to tell him why.  
He arrived in awhile and asked "Are you ready?" I sighed, I nodded, I  
felt so unsteady.  
Got down on the floor by my boy who was dying, and I just didn't care  
if the vet saw me crying.

As my pup slipped away, the last things he felt were the kisses and hugs  
of his master who knelt

On that "blankie" beside him to bid him goodbye, who had just one  
more minute to tell him, to try

to say thanks to his boy for a lifetime of love.... "Dear God, let me  
see him in heaven above!

But for now Lord, please hold him, watch over his rest... if he wakes in  
Your arms tell him I love him best."

Please keep this poem in its entirety and attribute it to the author if  
you download it and use it in any way. Thank you.

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## Dog Heatstroke Survival Guide

Know how to treat and prevent this dangerous condition.

by Robert Newman



What is heatstroke?

In simple terms, heatstroke occurs when a dog loses its natural ability to regulate its body temperature. Dogs don't sweat all over their bodies the way humans do. Canine body temperature is primarily regulated through respiration (i.e., panting). If a dog's respiratory tract cannot evacuate heat quickly enough, heatstroke can occur.

To know whether or not your dog is suffering from heatstroke (as opposed to merely heat exposure), it's important to know the signs of heatstroke.

A dog's normal resting temperature is about 100.5 to 102.5 degrees Fahrenheit. Once a dog's temperature rises above 105 degrees, physiological changes start to take place, and the dog begins to experience the effects of heatstroke. At 106 to 108 degrees, the dog begins to suffer irreversible damage to the kidneys, liver, gastrointestinal tract, heart and brain.

If a dog is experiencing heatstroke, you may observe excessive panting; hyperventilation; increased salivation; dry gums that become pale, grayish and tacky; rapid or erratic pulse; weakness; confusion; inattention; vomiting; diarrhea; and possible rectal bleeding. If the dog continues to overheat, breathing efforts become slowed or absent, and finally seizures or coma can occur.

The amount of damage a dog sustains when stricken with heatstroke depends on the magnitude and duration of the exposure. The longer and more severe the exposure, the worse the damage will be.

### What to do

1. Pay attention to your dog. Recognizing the symptoms of heatstroke and responding quickly is essential for the best possible outcome.

2. Get into the shade. If you think your dog is suffering from heatstroke, move it into a shaded area and out of direct sunlight. Apply cool water to the inner thighs and stomach of the dog, where there's a higher concentration of relatively superficial, large blood vessels. Apply cool water to the foot pads, as well.



3. Use running water. A faucet or hose is the best way to wet down your dog's body. Never submerge your dog in water, such as in a pool or tub – this could cool the dog too rapidly, leading to further complications, including cardiac arrest and bloating.

4. Use cool - not cold - water. Many people make the mistake of using cold water or ice to cool the dog. When faced with a dog suffering from heatstroke, remember that the goal is to cool the dog. Using ice or extremely cold water is actually counterproductive to this process because ice and cold water cause the blood vessels to constrict, which slows blood flow, thus slowing the cooling process.

5. Don't cover the dog. One of the keys to successfully cooling your dog is ensuring the water being placed on the dog can evaporate. Never cover an overheated dog with a wet towel or blanket. This inhibits evaporation and creates a sauna effect around your dog's body. Likewise, don't wet the dog down and put it into an enclosed area, such as a kennel. Any air flow during the cooling process is helpful in reducing the dog's body temperature. Sitting with the wet dog in a running car with the air conditioner blowing is an ideal cooling situation.

6. Keep the dog moving. It's important to try to encourage your dog to stand or walk slowly as it cools down. This is because the circulating blood tends to pool in certain areas if the dog is lying down, thus preventing the cooled blood from circulating back to the core.

7. Allow the dog to drink small amounts of water. Cooling the dog is the first priority. Hydration is the next. Don't allow the dog to gulp water.

Instead, offer small amounts of water that's cool, but not cold. If the dog drinks too much water too rapidly, it could lead to vomiting or bloat.

8. Avoid giving human performance drinks. Performance beverages designed for humans are not recommended because they are not formulated with the canine's physiology in mind. If you can't get an overheated dog to drink water, try offering chicken- or beef-based broths.

### **See a veterinarian**

Once your dog's temperature begins to drop, cease the cooling efforts and bring the dog to a veterinarian as soon as possible. Your dog's temperature should be allowed to slowly return to normal once cooling has begun. A dog that's cooled too quickly may become hypothermic.

Even if your dog appears to be fully recovered, the veterinarian needs to check to determine if the heatstroke caused any damage to your dog's kidneys and liver. The effects of heatstroke can continue for 48 to 72 hours longer, even if your dog appears normal.

William Grant, DVM, a veterinarian for 20 years and former president of the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association, has treated hundreds of cases of heatstroke, ranging from mild to fatal.

According to Grant, the most common cause of death following heatstroke is disseminated intravascular coagulopathy (blood coagulating throughout the body), or DIC, which can occur hours or days after the heatstroke episode.

DIC can also be caused by pyometra or septicemia, but Grant says heatstroke is the most common cause. "Once a dog develops DIC, it may bleed in the thorax, abdomen, nose and intestine," Grant says. "Once the blood-clotting factors are consumed, there is an inability of the blood vessels to prevent leaking; the condition is almost always fatal." For this reason, follow-up veterinary care is essential following a heatstroke episode, even if your dog seems to be completely fine.

### **Prevention is the best medicine**

The best treatment for heatstroke is prevention. Especially during the summer months, it's essential to be aware of the potential for heatstroke. Knowing the signs of heatstroke, and taking the necessary steps to

prevent it, will ensure your dog can have a safe and active life year-round.

### Coming to America Matgo Law



Often there is a point in time that will affect your entire life. On the April 1973 an event happened that has affected the lives of everyone reading this newsletter. On that date, Dogs magazine published an appeal by Matgo Law to the American Dog Fancier's to save the Chinese Shar-Pei from extinction. Whether we would have ever been able to own a Shar-Pei without his appeal can only be speculated. But what is clear is that because of that appeal, the Shar-Pei came to the attention of American dog breeders, and the rest of the story is sitting on the floors and sofas in our homes.

*The following is the wording from the plea in Dog's Magazine by  
Margarie Farnsworth:*

Matgo Law who owns the Down Homes Kennel in Hong Kong, is desperately trying to save the Chinese Fighting Dog from extinction. He and a group of other enthusiast, hope that some will be imported to the U.S., where one day these ancient dogs might become as popular as the Pekingese or the Chow Chow.

In 2008, Mr. Law was approved and licensed by the Hong Kong Kennel Club to judge the Chinese Shar-Pei. The Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club of Denver is having Mr. Matgo Law judge for their Specialty Show before Nationals. He will be judging both dog and bitch classes on September 28, 2009. We have also made special arrangements for him

to give a talk about the breed. That will be held on Tuesday night, immediately following a reception in his honor. Everyone is invited to attend these two events. We tentatively have the reception scheduled for 6 – 7 p.m. and Matgo's talk will immediately follow that are 7 p.m. *No one that has contributed any money to help get Mr. Law here will be exhibiting dogs at this show.*



Matgo Law judging at Phoenix, AZ November, 1990

### Seminars at the CSPCA National Specialty- 2009

#### Shar-Pei Research Update- Dr. Anne Avery

Thanks to the networking of Dr. Linda Tintle in finding a great researcher and to the Canine Health Foundation and the CSP Charitable Trust in sponsoring the project, and the Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club members for their collaboration, we have had a research project on going since July 2005.

Dr. Anne Avery at Colorado State University has been conducting a research project to study Shar-Pei fever syndrome. The goals of this project are;

1. to characterize inflammatory system in affected dogs so that we can better understand why some dogs progress to amyloidosis and some do not and
- 2) to determine if various markers of inflammation might be useful in identifying puppies that will develop the disease before their first fever episode.

In addition to the CSU studies, a group at the National Institutes of Health is working on identifying the gene(s) responsible for this disease, work which we hope will lead to a genetic test to identify carriers.

A better characterization of the cytokine cascade in these dogs may help to narrow the search for the relevant genes, and will facilitate understanding of disease pathogenesis when the genes are identified. They also performed immune system testing of affected and unaffected Shar-Pei in order to determine if immunodeficiencies documented previously in this breed are associated with the SharPei fever syndrome.

Dr. Anne Avery is going to be a guest speaker at our National Specialty. We have invited her to give us an update on the research she has done. We hope that you can make time in your schedule to hear the latest news on these research projects and to meet this wonderful researcher. She is scheduled to give her talk at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday October 1.

**First Aid Presentation – Jeff Vidt, DVM**

Dr. Vidt’s seminar will cover many aspects of first aid care for your pet including a review of general first aid principles, basic emergency treatments and techniques, handling of common emergency situations and a discussion on monitoring vital signs – all with an emphasis on the Chinese Shar-Pei. This will be an open discussion with the audience encouraged to participate.

Dr. Vidt’s presentation will immediately follow Dr. Avery’s presentation at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 1.

These seminars are free of charge and anyone is welcome to attend. You do not have to be exhibiting a dog at the National Specialty Show in order to attend.

*Thank you to all club members that helped to make it possible to host the CSPA National Specialty Show here in Denver. Thanks to those that did the legwork to find the location and work on the contract. Thanks also to everyone that bought stuff and sold stuff in our fundraisers so we would have a big enough treasurer to undertake this project. All of your contributions, no matter how big or small were greatly appreciated.*

**Officers of the Centennial Chinese Shar-Pei Club**

**President-** Alice Fix                      **Vice President-** Jeanne Hill- Jurik  
**Secretary-** Kay Rosenberger      **Treasurer-** Louise Watson  
**Board of Directors-** Kristin Reynolds ‘09    Marchelle Heslep ‘08

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Fund Raising: Kristin Reynolds  
Legislative Liaison: Alice Fix & Laura Brown  
Public Education: Jeanne Hill-Jurik  
Rescue: Louise Watson  
Show Chairman: Alice Fix & Jeanne Hill-Jurik  
Webmaster- Laura Brown

A note from the Editor:

We would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to contribute an article to this newsletter. The Rocky Mountain Wrinkle is a club publication, and as such requires the participation of club members through out the year. Your participation will help to make this publication meaningful and worthwhile for the membership of the club. All contributions and ideas are greatly appreciated.

Please forward your input for inclusion to the Publisher at the address listed below.

**The Rocky Mountain Wrinkle**  
**Awarded Best CSPA Newsletter-2005, 2008**  
**Awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Runner- Up CSPA Newsletter- 2006, 2007**  
**Awarded Best CSPA Club Website-2006, 2007, 2008**

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